

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
AGRICULTURE

JUNE 1990

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Staff:
Hartley Palleschi, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670

*Denotes Chair

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STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

PATRICK NORTON
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**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee
Bill Summaries**

June 1990

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

LD 2251 **An Act to Provide for Wider Production of Certain Deer for Food** **PUBLIC 649**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
EMERSON KILKELLY NUTTING	OTP	

SUMMARY

This bill includes red deer as a species of domesticated deer that may be raised for sale as venison and includes provisions to allow the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to declare other species eligible with the concurrence of the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 2332 **An Act to Amend the Minimum Standards for Planting Laws** **PUBLIC 783
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
COLLINS PINES TARDY MARTIN H	OTP-AM	S-575

SUMMARY

The bill provides that potentially sensitive information on plantings of certified seed potatoes has confidential status and is protected from the provisions of the freedom of access laws, except in case of subpoena in a criminal case or when needed to prosecute a violation of minimum planting standards.

The amendment adds an emergency preamble and clause and a provision that allows growers to authorize release of planting records.

LD 2339 **Resolve, Providing for a Study of the Establishment of a Testing Program for the Purity of Agricultural Food Products** **RESOLVE 77**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
WEBSTER M LIBBY EMERSON	OTP-AM	H-977

SUMMARY

The resolve, as amended by the committee amendment, ties a study and report on the need for a food safety testing facility into an on-going study group of the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Maine.

LD 2412 **An Act to Provide for a Study of the Harness Racing Industry** **PUBLIC 787
EMERGENCY**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TARDY	OTP-AM	H-941

SUMMARY

The bill, as amended by the committee amendment, creates the Commission to Study the Harness Racing

Industry and provides funding for the study from industry contributions to various dedicated funds. This bill replaces LD 2022, a resolve creating a harness racing study that would have required General Fund revenues.

LD 2424 **An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Commission on Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering** **PUBLIC 798**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TARDY WHITCOMB	OTP	

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies that the Commission on Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering has authority over both the products and the waste products of biotechnology and genetic engineering research, development and production.

LD 2434 **An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning the Theft of Blueberries** **PUBLIC 859**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
TARDY	OTP-AM	H-1038 TARDY H-967

SUMMARY

The bill permits the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources greater access to the records of persons receiving blueberry shipments for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with blueberry theft laws. The bill ensures that potentially sensitive business information available to the department or the Maine Blueberry Commission is kept confidential and is protected from the freedom of access laws.

LD 2450 **An Act Concerning the Use of Live Animals in Games** **INDEF PP**

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
HEPBURN MATTHEWS		

SUMMARY

This bill, which was not referred to a committee, would have extended permission for any group or individual to use live animals in games if the animal's actions did not deviate from their natural behavior. Under current law only educational and cultural institutions or nonprofit service organizations may use live animals in games.